

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action mailed September 26, 2006, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

A petition for a three (3) month extension of time for responding to the Official Action is herewith submitted.

Claim 7 has been amended. Claims 1-6 and 8-37 have been canceled.

Claim 7 is pending.

Rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph

The Examiner rejects claim 7 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that claim 7, part c), introduces new matter as it introduces an unsupported specific negative limitation to exclude particular combination of mutations which happened to be described in prior art used in art rejection. Applicants have amended claim 7 by canceling the alleged new matter. Thus, the rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Allowance of claim 7 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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